IV. Resolutions by the Members

A. Acquisition of historical documents of erstwhile Saurashtra States.

(1) Resolution by Professor R.K. Dharaiya

"It is resolved that the historical documents lying in the palaces of former native states of Saurashtra, be procured. The princes concerned may be requested to supply the documents or their copies to the I.H.R.C. The Government of the State of Gujarat may also be requested to help in the process."

Explanatory Note

Many valuable historical documents are lying in the palaces, libraries of some of the native states of Saurashtra. They contain manuscripts, correspondence, notes etc. referring to various aspects of the policy and activities of the State. They are perhaps unused, and if procured will certainly throw new light on the history of native states and their relations with the British Government.

Standing Committee's views:

A similar resolution on the records of the ex-ruling families of the former Princely States of Orissa to ensure proper preservation of their family papers and erstwhile State records and to allow access to scholars for purposes of research was adopted in the 38th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. The princes were sensitive and not willing to part with their papers, especially to permit their being taken out of their erstwhile states. The problem has to be tackled without wounding their susceptibilities and with due regard to local circumstances.